

(Washington, DC) Today, Congressman Alcee L. Hastings (D-Miramar) made the following statement on the one year anniversary of the 7.0 magnitude earthquake that devastated Haiti in 2010, causing thousands of casualties and severely damaging the infrastructure of the nation:

“A year ago today, we all watched in horror as millions of Haitians fought for their lives among the wreckage of crumbling buildings. Yet a year later, far too many Haitians are still struggling for survival. Though the generosity of the global community has been commendable, much more needs to be done.

“The rubble has yet to be cleared, over a million remain without permanent housing, and a lack of clean water has led to a full-blown cholera epidemic. Though it has been a year, now is not the time to turn our backs on our Haitian neighbors.

“Not only is more needed to address Haiti’s immediate needs, but investment in Haiti’s long-term development is vital to the ultimate success of this recovery. It is both our moral obligation and in the United States’ best interest to stand with Haiti in order to build the thriving, self-sufficient nation it has all the potential to become.

“On this somber day, I remain steadfast in my commitment to the Haitian people and have faith that with the good will, cooperation, and resources of the United States, the Haitian government, and the international community, this unspeakable tragedy will lead to a much brighter future for Haiti.”

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